

Amendments to the Claims: This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An iridium alloy, consisting essentially of iridium, Rh ~~and at least one of~~, W and Zr; wherein the Rh comprises between 0.1 and 2.5 wt% of the alloy; wherein ~~when present~~, W comprises between 0.01 and 5 wt% of the alloy; and wherein ~~when present in combination with W~~, Zr comprises between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy; ~~and wherein when present in combination with the Rh only, Zr comprises between 0.01 and 0.09 wt% of the alloy.~~
2. (Currently Amended) An iridium alloy according to claim 1, wherein ~~when present~~, W comprises between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy; ~~and wherein when present in combination with the Rh only, Zr comprises between 0.02 and 0.07 wt% of the alloy.~~
3. (Currently Amended) An alloy comprising an iridium alloy consisting essentially of iridium, Rh ~~and at least one of~~, W ~~and~~, Zr and Pt; wherein the Rh comprises between 0.1 and 2.5 wt% of the alloy; wherein ~~when present~~, W comprises between 0.01 and 5 wt% of the alloy; wherein ~~when present in combination with W~~, Zr comprises between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy; ~~and wherein when present in combination with the Rh only, Zr comprises between 0.01 and 0.09 wt% of the alloy, modified by the addition of Pt in an amount of~~ comprises between 0.1 and 5 wt% of the alloy.
4. (Currently Amended) An alloy comprising an iridium alloy consisting essentially of iridium, Rh ~~and at least one of~~, W ~~and~~, Zr and one or more of Ta, Nb, Mo, Cr, Ce, Sc, Lu, Co, Ni, Hf, Y, Ti, Ru and Pd individually in an amount of between 0.01 and 10 wt% of the alloy; wherein the Rh comprises between 0.1 and 2.5 wt% of the alloy; wherein ~~when present~~, W comprises between 0.01 and 5 wt% of the alloy; and wherein ~~when present in combination with W~~, Zr comprises between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy; ~~and wherein when present in combination with the Rh only, Zr comprises between 0.01 and 0.09 wt% of the alloy, modified by the addition of one or more of Ta, Nb, Mo, Cr, Ce, Sc, Lu, Co, Ni, Hf, Y, Ti, Ru and Pd individually in an amount of between 0.01 and 10 wt% of the alloy.~~

5. (Original) An alloy according to claim 4, wherein when present, Ta, Nb, Mo, Cr, Ce, Sc, Lu, Co, Ni, Hf, Y and Ti individually comprise between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy; and wherein when present, Ru and Pd individually comprise between 0.1 and 5 wt% of the alloy.
6. - 12. (Canceled)
13. (Currently Amended) An iridium alloy according to claim 3, wherein ~~when present, W comprises between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy; and wherein when present in combination with the Rh only, Zr comprises between 0.02 and 0.07 wt% of the alloy.~~
14. (Currently Amended) An iridium alloy according to claim 4, wherein ~~when present, W comprises between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy; and wherein when present in combination with the Rh only, Zr comprises between 0.02 and 0.07 wt% of the alloy.~~
15. - 18. (Canceled)
19. (New) In iridium alloy according to claim 1, wherein W comprises between 0.02 and 2.0 wt% of the alloy.
20. (New) In iridium alloy according to claim 3, wherein W comprises between 0.02 and 2.0 wt% of the alloy.
21. (New) In iridium alloy according to claim 4, wherein W comprises between 0.02 and 2.0 wt% of the alloy.
22. (New) An alloy comprising an iridium alloy consisting essentially of iridium, Rh, W, Zr, Pt, and one or more of Ta, Nb, Mo, Cr, Ce, Sc, Lu, Co, Ni, Hf, Y, Ti, Ru and Pd individually in an amount of between 0.01 and 10 wt% of the alloy; wherein the Rh comprises between 0.1 and 2.5 wt% of the alloy; wherein W comprises between 0.01 and 5 wt% of the alloy; and wherein Zr comprises between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy.
23. (New) An iridium alloy according to claim 22, wherein W comprises between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy.

24. (New) An iridium alloy according to claim 22, wherein W comprises between 0.02 and 2.0 wt% of the alloy.
25. (New) An alloy according to claim 22, wherein when present, Ta, Nb, Mo, Cr, Ce, Sc, Lu, Co, Ni, Hf, Y and Ti individually comprise between 0.01 and 0.5 wt% of the alloy; and wherein when present, Ru and Pd individually comprise between 0.1 and 5 wt% of the alloy.